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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/501,235	07/12/2004	Rowland White	320-008	3550
22429	7590	03/06/2006	EXAMINER	
LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN AND BERNER, LLP 1700 DIAGONAL ROAD SUITE 300 /310 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			HAMMOND, BRIGGITTE R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/501,235	Applicant(s) WHITE, ROWLAND	
	Examiner Brigitte R. Hammond	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-15, 17 and 19-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-15, 17 and 19-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on Dec. 19, 2005 has been entered.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, all of the "planes" (1st, 2nd, 3rd) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

The drawings are also objected to because numeral 13 is disclosed as being a contact "edge". However, it has a lead line pointing to line "W". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief

description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. **The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.**

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 9, line 7, it is unclear to the Examiner how 5c and 5a are in one plane.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 12-15, 17 and 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 20 and 22, it is unclear to the Examiner what surfaces define the cutting edge?

Claim 22 recites the limitation " the flat contact surface" in line 6, "the cutting edge and "the surfaces" in line 7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 12 and 21 recites the limitation "the planes of the two surfaces " in line 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Also in claims 12 and 21, the portion of the claim that recites "and the planes of the two surfaces defining the cutting edge lie in a second and a third plane respectively, the second and third planes being respectively between 30 and 60 to the first plane" is unclear to the Examiner and therefore not examined.

The Examiner reminds applicant (again) that claims 12-15,17 and 19-26 should be thoroughly checked for proper antecedence. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 12,13,15,17 and 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Garcin 5,848,911. Regarding claims 12 and 21, Garcin discloses a contact 1 for establishing electrical connection with an electrically conductive wire, comprising: a base and two elongate blades 10,11 extending from the base and defining therebetween a channel within which a wire 3 is to be received, a first blade of the two elongate blades being flat and a second blade of the two elongated blades

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being shaped (widely), a flat contact surface of one blade being opposite a cutting edge of the other blade and lying on opposite sides of the channel, the flat contact surface maintaining the wire substantially parallel to the flat contact surface through the channel and the cutting edge of the other blade pointing towards the flat contact surface wherein the blades each have two major surfaces and two minor surfaces and the flat contact surface comprises a portion of a major surface of one blade proximate the other blade and wherein the flat contact surface lies in a first plane.

Regarding claim 13, the second blade 10 is shaped so as to present the flat contact surface to the cutting edge of the other blade.

Regarding claim 15, the blades each have two major and minor surfaces and the flat contact surface comprises a minor surface of one blade proximate the other blade.

Regarding claim 17, the cutting edge comprises a corner of a major surface 34 with a minor surface 36 of the other blade.

Regarding claims 20,22,25 and 26, Garcin discloses a contact 1 for establishing electrical connection with an electrically conductive wire, comprising: a base 40 and two elongate blades 10,11 extending from the base and defining therebetween a channel within which a wire 3 is to be received, a first blade portion of the two being flat and a second blade portion of the two being shaped, a flat contact surface of one blade and a cutting edge of the other blade lying on opposite sides of the channel, wherein a line Δ' drawn parallel to the flat contact surface and passing through the point defined by the end of the cutting edge is not parallel to either of the surfaces defining the cutting edge.

Regarding claims 23 and 24, the contact is manufactured from a planar material (sheet metal).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 14 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including **all** of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brigitte R. Hammond whose telephone number is 571-272-2006. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. and Alternate Fridays from 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Brigitte R. Hammond
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2833

March 1, 2006